

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Criminal Investigation Division  
Investigative Activity Report**

**Case Number:**

1000-0494

**Case Title:**

Cooke Aquaculture Fish Farm Release

**Reporting Office:**

Seattle, WA, Area Office

**Subject of Report:**

2017-11-22 Interview of [REDACTED] for the Millennium Star

**Activity Date:**

November 22, 2017

**Reporting Official and Date:**

[REDACTED]

Agent

05-DEC-2017, Signed by: [REDACTED]

**Approving Official and Date:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

07-DEC-2017, Approved by: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**SYNOPSIS**

On November 22, 2017, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] regarding his knowledge of the activities  
of July 24, 2017

**DETAILS**

On November 22, 2017, [REDACTED] and I interviewed  
[REDACTED], regarding his knowledge of the activities of July 24,  
2017. After being notified of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview,  
[REDACTED], in substance, provided the following information:

[REDACTED]

On July 24, 2017, at approximately 2100 hours, the Millennium Star received a call from Harley Marine dispatch regarding a loose barge near their location. They proceeded to the approximate location and then were told that the loose barge, was in fact, a net pen which was broken free from its moorings.

The net pen was located very low in the water without a lot of "freeboard." A skiff approached the Millennium Star and contacted the crew of the Millennium Star's crew regarding the situation. At one point the net pen personnel stated to the Millennium Star crew that the Millennium Star "was their only hope." The net pen personnel met with the Millennium Star captain. The captain let [REDACTED] return to the net pen with the net pen personnel. [REDACTED] was there for approximately thirty minutes when he called back to the Millennium Star on the radio and explained that a bridle was being fashioned. The Millennium Star hooked to the bridle and began pulling on the net pen.

Within the first 24 hours, he believed that things became very dangerous around the net pen. He saw the net pen buckling in places and other places getting deeper in the water. The net pen crew was scrambling to save equipment on the net pens. Eventually, the personnel departed the net pen and it appeared the personnel were pushing on the north end of the net pen. During this time, it appeared that the net pen lost more anchor lines and old anchors lines were severed. He would estimate that two new lines and some of the older lines were lost during this 24 hours.

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He later witnessed a person on the net pens he assumed was brought in to "take care" of this mooring issue. He would describe him as a white male in his mid-thirties with a shaved head and glasses. He believed he was in charge because the others seemed to be following his orders. At one point, he saw other personnel who he thought were "higher ups" arrive on the net pen and were guided by this person.

He estimates that the Millennium Star was on scene for between 4 ½-5 days. He did not complete a logbook, but took photos of the incident with his personal phone. He is willing to share these photos with the investigation.

During his subsequent shifts, he saw the net pen personnel attempting to reset the anchors for the net pen. He did not observe other activities. He knows that the Millennium Star's captain, [REDACTED] took pictures of the incident as well.

He spoke with one of the net pen personnel, a large, bearded man with a Scottish accent over a cup of coffee, but did not speak about the net pen situation. Other than speaking to divers during the removal of a net pen line from the blades of the Millennium Star, he had no other conversations with the net pen personnel.

Agent Note: During the interview, Harley Marine employees [REDACTED] were present and provided additional industry information, but no information about the incident.